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TITLE: PREVENTIVE FOR PERIODONTAL DISEASE

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ABSTRACT:

PURPOSE: To provide the subject drug containing catechins such as gallic acid, (+)-catechin, (+)-gallocatechin and (-)-epicatechin extracted from tea leaves and having a specific growth inhibitory effect on *Bacteroides gingivalis* as the pathogenic microorganism of periodontal diseases.

CONSTITUTION: A preventive for periodontal diseases, containing catechins such as gallic acid, (+)-catechin, (+)-gallocatechin, (-)-epicatechin, (-)-epigallocatechin, (-)-epicatechin gallate, (-)-epigallocatechin gallate, dimer thereof and trimer thereof extracted from tea as the active components. The above-mentioned catechins can specifically inhibit growth of *Bacteroides gingivalis* as the pathogenic microorganism of periodontal diseases and have a inhibitory effect on a collagenase produced from the bacteroid. Since the drug can be obtained from tea free from side effects there is no problem of safety. The drug is mixed in a gum, a candy, a tablet candy, a gargle, a tooth paste, etc., to obtain the objective preventive effect.

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